

# TERSE NOTES GRAPH THEORY

AMIN IDELHAJ

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*Remark 1.1.* Singular of vertices is *not* vertice, but *vertex*

**Definition 1.2.** A graph is a pair  $G = (V, E)$  where  $V$  is a set of vertices and  $E$  is a set of edges (ordered pairs of vertices).

**Definition 1.3.** Two vertices  $u, v \in V$  are *adjacent* if  $\{u, v\} \in E$ , and we write  $u \sim v$ .

The adjacency relation is irreflexive, i.e.  $(\forall u \in V)(u \not\sim u)$ , and symmetric, i.e.  $(\forall u, v \in V)(u \sim v \iff v \sim u)$ . If we consider more than one graph on the same set of vertices, we write  $u \sim_G v$ .

**Notation 1.4.** If  $V$  is a set, then write  $\binom{V}{2}$  for the set of unordered pair of elements of  $V$ .

**Definition 1.5.** If  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph, then the complement is  $\overline{G} = (V, \overline{E})$  where  $\overline{E} = \binom{V}{2} \setminus E$

Given two distinct vertices  $u$  and  $v$ , we have that  $u \sim_{\overline{G}} v \iff u \not\sim_G v$ .

**Definition 1.6.**  $[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

**Notation 1.7.** Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , we write  $n = |V|$  for the *order* of the graph, and  $m = |E|$  for the *size* of the graph. These letters are fixed.

**Example 1.8.**  $K_n$  is the complete graph on  $n$  vertices:  $([n], \binom{[n]}{2})$ .

For any graph,  $0 \leq m \leq \binom{n}{2}$ , where equality is achieved only by  $K_n$ . We refer to complete graphs as cliques.

**Example 1.9.**  $\overline{K_n}$  is the empty graph.

**Example 1.10.**  $P_n$  is the path of length  $n - 1$ .

*Remark 1.11.* On general principle, the subscript of a graph name denotes the number of vertices.

**Example 1.12.** For  $n \geq 3$ , we have  $C_n$ , the cycle of length  $n$ . Here  $m = n$ .

**Example 1.13.** We have the  $k \times l$  grid, where

**DO 1.14.** How many edges does the  $k \times l$  grid have?

**Example 1.15.**  $K_{r,s}$  is called the complete bipartite graph, where we take a vertex set of size  $r$  and of size  $s$ , and connect each vertex to all the vertices of the other set. Here,  $n = r + s$  and  $m = rs$ .

**Example 1.16.**  $Q_d$  is called the  $d$ -dimensional cube. The vertex set is  $\{0, 1\}^d$ , and two strings are adjacent if they agree in all but one coordinate.  $n = 2^d$ .

**Notation 1.17.** If  $A$  is a set, then  $|A|$  is the number of elements of  $A$ .

**Definition 1.18.** If  $u \sim v$ , then  $u$  and  $v$  are neighbors. Write  $N_G(u)$  for the set of neighbors of  $u$ , and the *degree* of  $u$  is  $\deg(u) = |N_G(u)|$ .

**Theorem 1.19** (Handshake).

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) = 2m$$

**DO! 1.20.** Prove the Handshake theorem and figure out why it's called the Handshake theorem.

**DO 1.21.** Review relations, and in particular equivalence relations.

**Definition 1.22.** A graph  $G$  is regular of degree  $r$  if  $(\forall v)(\deg(v) = r)$ . We sometimes call it  $r$ -regular.

**Examples 1.23.** •  $K_n$  is regular of degree  $n - 1$

- $\overline{K_n}$  is regular of degree 0
- $C_n$  is regular of degree 2
- $P_n$  is irregular except when  $n = 1$ , in which case it has degree 0, or  $n = 2$ , in which case it has degree 1
- $\text{grid}(k, l)$  is irregular except when  $k, l \leq 2$ .
- $K_{r,s}$  is regular of degree  $r$  if and only if  $r = s$ .
- $Q_d$  is regular of degree  $d$

**Definition 1.24.** If  $G = (V, E)$  and  $H = (W, F)$  are graphs, then  $f : V \rightarrow W$  is an *isomorphism* from  $G$  to  $H$  if it's bijective and  $(\forall u, v \in V)(u \sim_G v \iff f(u) \sim_H f(v))$ . If such an isomorphism exists, we say  $G$  and  $H$  are *isomorphic*, denoted  $G \cong H$ .

**Example 1.25.** Petersen's graph (I can't draw it quickly enough but Google Images).  $n = 10$ , it's 3-regular.

*Remark 1.26.* The previous example did not have a typo, it's spelled Petersen and not Peterson.

**DO 1.27.** The graph drawn on the board is isomorphic to the Petersen graph.

**Definition 1.28.** A graph is self-complementary if  $G \cong \overline{G}$ .

**Examples 1.29.** Some examples of self-complementary graphs include  $P_1$ ,  $P_4$ , and  $C_5$

**HW 1.30** (Due Thursday). If  $G$  is self-complementary, then  $n \equiv 0$  or  $1 \pmod{4}$ .

**Definition 1.31** (SUBGRAPH). If  $G = (V, E)$  and  $H = (W, F)$  are graphs, then  $H$  is a subgraph of  $G$ , denoted  $H \subset G$ , if  $W \subset V$  and  $F \subset E$ .

**Examples 1.32.**  $C_5 \subset K_5$  (no vertices deleted),  $K_4 \subset K_5$  (a vertex deleted).

**Examples 1.33.** There are  $\binom{n}{3}$  3-cycles in  $K_n$ , since we just choose 3 vertices. Now, we can find 3 copies of  $C_4$  in  $K_4$ , so there are  $3\binom{n}{4}$  copies in  $K_n$ .

**HW 1.34.** Count the  $C_4$  subgraphs of  $Q_d$ .

**Theorem 1.35** (Mantel-Turan). If  $G$  is triangle free, i.e.  $K_3 \not\subset G$ , then  $m \leq \frac{n^2}{4}$ .

**DO\* 1.36.** Prove Mantel-Turan.

**DO 1.37.** The bound in Mantel-Turan obviously implies  $m \leq \lfloor \frac{n^2}{4} \rfloor$ , so show that this is tight (for every  $n$ , find an example achieving equality).

**Definition 1.38.** For  $u, v \in V$ , we say  $v$  is *accessible* from  $u$  if there exists a path starting at  $u$  and ending at  $v$ , written  $u \dots v$

**DO 1.39.** Accessibility is an equivalence relation.

*Remark 1.40.* It's obviously reflexive and symmetric, but your immediate instinct for transitivity won't work right away, think about it carefully.

**Definition 1.41.** We refer to equivalence classes of the accessibility relation as *connected components*, and  $k(G)$  is the number of them.  $G$  is *connected* if  $k(G) = 1$ .

**DO 1.42.** If  $G$  is connected then  $m \geq n - 1$ .

**HW 1.43** (Due Thursday). Given  $n$ , find the largest  $m$  such there exists a disconnected graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges.

**Definition 1.44.** A *tree* is a connected, cycle-free graph.

**DO 1.45.** If  $T$  is a tree then  $m = n - 1$

**HW 1.46** (Due Thursday). Draw all the 7-vertex trees up to isomorphism and state how many there are.